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Listing and Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Currently amended) Method for detecting the orientation of <u>the images in</u> a set of images, <u>each image in</u> said set of images containing ~~subset of images, each image in a subset of images representing~~ at least one similar object wherein ~~it~~ <u>the method</u> comprises the steps of:

choosing a reference image in each ~~subset~~ <u>set</u> of image<u>s</u> from among the set of images, <u>which orientation is known a priori; and</u>

detecting the orientation of the <u>other</u> images of ~~each subset~~ <u>of said set of images</u> as a function of the orientation of the said reference image.

2. (Previously presented) Method according to claim 1, wherein it comprises a step of calculating the visual distance between the reference image and the said image.

3. (Previously presented) Method according to claim 2, wherein it comprises a step of calculating the visual distance between

the said image and the reference image,

the said image and the reference image having undergone a rotation of 90 degrees,

the said image and the reference image having undergone a rotation of 180 degrees,

the said image and the reference image having undergone a rotation of 270 degrees.

4. (Previously presented) Method according to claim 3, wherein it comprises a step of determining a subimage in the reference image and a subimage in the said image, the

calculation of the visual distance between the said image and the reference image being performed on the respective subimages.

5. (Previously presented) Method according to claim 4, wherein the said subimages have the same relative size with respect to the image in which each is positioned.

6. (Previously presented) Method according to claim 4, wherein the said subimages are centered with respect to the image in which they are positioned.

7. (Previously presented) Method according to claim 4, wherein the said subimages are positioned in such a way that the visual distance between the said subimages are minimal.

8. (Previously presented) Method according to claim 1 wherein it furthermore comprises a step of selecting the said reference image as a function of the distance between this reference image and the target image.

9. (Currently amended) Device for detecting the orientation of the images in a set of images, each image in said set of images containing subset of images, each image in a subset of images representing at least one similar object wherein it the method comprises the steps of:

    choosing a reference image in each subset set of images from among the set of images, which orientation is known a priori; and

    detecting the orientation of the other images of each subset said set of images as a function of the orientation of the said reference image.